ROW • TAKAKURA • PRESENTS

Hard-boiled Love shot:01

パラダイス・ロスト

高座朗

待望の新連載!!

The long awaited new series!

鮮烈な過去と孤独を持った
I've been keeping my vivid past in solitude

男達のトリーム…平穏は裏切られて——
But the men in my dreams
they betrayed the tranquility

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scanned sansaray
translated polluxa
proof-read mandeh
edited polluxa

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, TOKYO SHIBUYA
100
CATCH YA LATER, KOUTA!
I ALWAYS MADE SURE,...
...THAT I HAD MY OWN TURF IN TOKYO SHIBUYA
I USED TO [illegible] OUT THERE 'TILL LATE
SHOULD HAD BEEN A NIGHT NO DIFFERENT THAN OTHERS
BEG FOR MERCY NOW!

TOUGH LUCK!
THAT GUY GOTTA DEAL WITH THEM
I HAVEN'T EVEN GOTTEN OUT OF THE SHOP
WHAT'S THIS?
SHOULD I LEND HIM A HAND?
IT'S USELESS TO APOLOGIZE
YOU TOO, PUNK!
DON'T YA STAND THERE LIKE AN IDIOT!
THAT GUY LOOKS KINDA DANGEROUS
BUT...

EH..!?
THUMP
IF ANY OF YOU LAY A HAND ON HIM AGAIN
YOU'RE ASKING FOR HELL
WHAT A PAIN
HE'S MY IMPORTANT EMPLOYEE
SON OF A BITCH!!

SWOOSH
SMACK!

tap tap tap
THUMP
SHIT! NO WAY...
CORNERED BY EIGHT PEOPLE
SHIN.
MEAN-WHILE
ALL I COULD DO WAS GETTING COLD FEET
AND KNOCKED 'EM OUT WITHOUT EVEN BREAKING A SWEAT

PRESENT TIME~~~
IT'S KILLING ME INSIDE
THANK YOU
PLEASE COME AGAIN
HE WON'T GO OUT WITH YOU, YOU KNOW
ICE CREAM CREPE
HEY HEY LET US HEAR YOUR VOICE
ISN'T HE GORGEOUS?
COME ON, LET'S GIVE IT A SHOT
ERR... EXCUSE ME
WELL, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW IF YOU NEVER ASK!
HE CALLS YOU SHIN-SAN ♡
IDIOT

CAN YOU SPEAK JAPANESE?
A LITTLE
IT'S OKAY, YOU KNOW! ♡
KYAA
KYAA
SO YOU'RE NOT REALLY A JAPANESE?
YOU'RE SO TALL!
DOKI K
DOKI K
THEN, WHAT ARE YOU? WHERE WERE YOU FROM?
IS THAT YOUR REAL HAIR COLOR?
"JUST A LITTLE", HUH?
SHOULD I JUST TELL THEM?
OH NO, NOW YOU'RE BEING SILENT AGAIN
HE WON'T UNDERSTAND IF YOU TALK SO MUCH IN A SINGLE BREATH

HERE'S SOMEONE WHO KNOWS EVERYONE IN SHIBUYA
GEH! KOUTA!!
WHAT? YOU KNOW HIM?
SORT OF
THIS IS KYLE
AGE 20
2 YEARS OLDER THAN ME
DOESN'T SHOW, RIGHT?
OH, YEAH, I REMEMBER WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THIS SHOP
SOMETHING AWESOME HAPPE...
THWACK!
DON'T GIVE AWAY ALL THE "SECRET INGREDIENTS"** ALREADY OR ELSE THE SHOP WILL NEED TO CLOSE
IT HURT, SHIN-SAN!!
THAT'S ENOUGH
SORRY

** NOTE: A METAPHOR OTHER THAT'S SIMILAR IS "DON'T REVEAL ALL THE CARDS NOW, OR THE SHOP WILL NEED TO CLOSE." I'M STICKING WITH "SECRET INGREDIENTS" BECUASE I THINK SHIN USED IT TO REFER TO HIS CREPE VENDOR

THAT APRON
YOU THINK?
HEY, SHIN-SAN, I DON'T THINK IT SUITS YOU
WHAT?
BESIDES, I THINK YOU SHOULD BE DOING A MORE AWESOME JOB
YOU SHOULD BE DOING SOMETHING PHYSICAL
LIKE, SAY, LIKE A BODYGUARD
BEING A CREPE VENDOR IS KINDA
THAT'LL KNOCK OUT THIS OLD BODY
DON'T CHEW SOMETHING JUST BECAUSE THE WAY IT LOOKS**

** A METAPHOR. SIMILAR TO "DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER"

tousle
BESIDES, I'M ALWAYS HAPPY WHEN I EAT SWEETS, YOU KNOW
SO RIGHT NOW I FEEL LIKE LIVIN' IN LUXURY
WHAT'S WITH THIS OLD-MAN SPEECH ALL OF A SUDDEN?
DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE WEAK OR STRONG
grab
YOU, GO HOME
SHOULD JUST DO WHAT YOU
I WAS JUST CHEWING SOMETHING OVER WITH SHIN-SAN
WHAT'S UP, KYLE? JEALOUS?
IF YOU WANT SOMETHING TO CHEW
CREPE
TAKE THIS HOME WITH YOU

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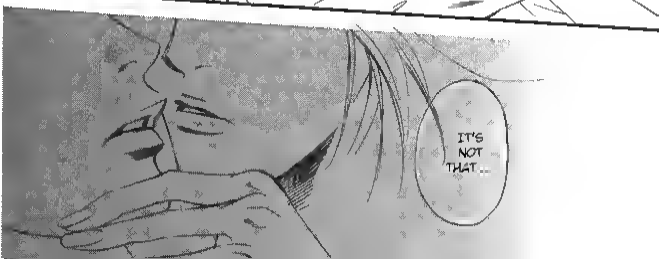
TOMORROW, I'M GOING ALONE FOR THE MORNING'S SHOPPING
SO, HAVE A SLEEP-IN
I'M GOING WITH YOU
KYLE

ARE YOU SAYING THAT I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO DO A ONE-MAN ERRAND?


IT'S NOT THAT...

I JUST WANT TO BE WITH YOU, ALWAYS
*HERE: JAPAN
I CAME HERE* FOR THAT
chu
AGGRES-SIVE TODAY, AREN'T WE?

SORRY
AH, MAYBE IT'S RIGHT AFTER ALL
I DON'T THINK THAT'S WHAT IT IS
IT'S YOU-JAPANESE WHO DO THINGS SLOWLY
DO YOU HATE ME?
I CAN'T HELP
BEING THIS ATTACHED TO YOU
HARDLY
I LIKE YOU

THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU, YOU'RE IMPORTANT
WITH YOU BEING THE SHOP ASSISTANT, THE FEMALE CUSTOMER INCREASES DRASTICALLY, WHICH IS GOOD FOR THE BUSINESS
SO WHEN YOU'RE AT MY PLACE
GET READY TO BE SPOILED A LITTLE
YOU KNOW...
I'M NO LONGER
THE CHILD I USED TO BE BACK THEN
SHIN YOU'RE NICE TO ME
UNLIKE OTHER ADULTS I KNOW, YOU'RE NOT HIDING ANY CATCH
IF I HAD TURNED YOU DOWN I DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD BECOME OF ME NOW

What lies beneath their deep relationship?
And what's the double edged intention of their past??

[end of chapter 01]

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